



Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster



The Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster aims to ensure equitable access to assistance, protection, and services for internally displaced persons (IDPs) living in displacement sites, as well as to improve their quality of life and dignity during displacement while seeking and advocating for durable solutions.²

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNHCR globally co-lead the CCCM Cluster for natural disaster and conflict-induced IDP situations respectively.³

GENDER EQUALITY IN CCCM

During crises and other emergencies, affected communities may be forced to leave their homes and seek shelter, protection, and other assistance in camps. Tensions and vulnerabilities among displaced populations can increase in communal camp settings, particularly if girls, boys, women, and men representing diverse groups are not equally involved in decision-making.⁴ Initiatives by the CCCM Cluster can include working with the affected population to ensure social networks are realized and maintained, coping mechanisms are recognized, participation of women, the community, and men occur to promote female leadership and male engagement in promoting gender equality, and that protection concerns raised by the community are addressed by appropriate prevention and response to SGBV. It is also essential that two-way communication structures are present and that feedback mechanisms and access to information about services are provided. It should also be noted that camp coordination and management roles are often male dominated with limited access to women. There should be more systematic inclusion of female camp coordinators and management positions in senior roles.

PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CCCM CLUSTER

- Recognizing that people residing in camp settings may be from diverse regions with different cultures and needs. Some camp settings may be more homogenous while others are very mixed which may contribute to increased tensions;
- Reducing risks to women and girls with strategic placement and access to water sources;
- Provision of firewood or other cooking fuel so that women and children do not have to search in surrounding forests or areas where they may be attacked or encounter landmines;
- Using existing community laws, processes, and practices while taking a “do no harm” approach, and being careful not to entrench unequal power structures that negatively impact women and girls;
- Plans for playgrounds, community centres, and overall design of camps must be gender-responsive, child and adolescent-friendly, and responsive to different abilities;
- Ensure that the social, cultural, religious, and other demographic characteristics of the camp population are well understood and guide decision making;
- Ensure representative diversity in camp management, governance structures, and processes – identify and leverage women leaders and existing community leaders;
- Design for privacy and acceptance – focus on dignity; and
- Intervene at political levels to integrate women in the management of camps, especially those run by security forces.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND BEST PRACTICES

- Think strategically and long term; be realistic about how long people will remain in camp settings;
- Respond to specific needs of women and girls and ensure safety and security through consultations with women and girls themselves;
- Provide gender and culture-specific psychosocial support;
- Strengthen the capacities of camp communities to organize and advocate for themselves;
- Recognize women as agents of change;
- Communication is inclusive of women, girls, boys, and men, and available in multiple languages if needed;
- Listen to clients/residents and adapt to their needs using proper and culturally appropriate feedback mechanisms, specifically ensuring that women and girls have access and feel comfortable;
- Consider power structures within camps which may not align with pre-existing power structures in the community – be mindful of the impacts on women and girls;
- Understand the needs of the host community and ensure that services are provided to prevent inequities;
- Recognize that access may depend on pre-existing cultural norms of political activism and participation;
- Gender-sensitive conflict-management/resolution processes need to be in place, specifically when dealing with disputes related to protection (SGBV, marital disputes etc.); and
- Reduce the risk of recruitment and trafficking in camps. Recognize that camp populations may be at higher risk for exploitation and trafficking and take steps to understand and address this. Involve camp communities to ensure the risks and solutions are informed by their experiences.

2. <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/coordination/clusters/camp-coordination-management>

3. <https://cccmcluster.org/about/cluster>

4. CCCM: Why Does Gender Equality Matter in Emergency CCCM Interventions? (UNHCR 2012)